

Air Force continues HYT waivers

WASHINGTON (AFPN)—To combat manning shortages and projected under strength for fiscal 2000 and 2001, the Air Force is continuing its liberal high-year-of-tenure extension policy which was originally scheduled to end Aug. 31.

The Air Force liberalized the HYT extension policy in March for senior airmen through senior master sergeants scheduled to reach their HYT in fiscal 1999 and 2000. The program is being continued through fiscal 2000 and a similar program has been adopted for individuals scheduled to reach their HYT in fiscal 2001.

“The continuation of the liberal HYT extension policy provides commanders the opportunity to retain people vital to the mission,” said Lt. Gen. Donald L. Peterson, deputy chief of staff for personnel.

The program offers eligible senior airmen through senior master sergeants the opportunity to request a two-year extension if their current HYT occurs between now and the end of fiscal 2001. For instance, qualified staff sergeants with a Sept. 1, 2001 HYT can now request to extend their retirement date to Sept. 1, 2003.

Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and Peterson said approval would be based on individual contributions to mission requirements and ability to meet quality standards. Therefore, applicants should not make irrevocable plans until their extension is approved.

Benefits to the Air Force include:

- Retention of experienced senior airmen and noncommissioned officers;
- Assistance to commanders in meeting operational missions;
- Relief to current 5-level manning shortfall;
- Supports transition to the expeditionary aerospace force; and
- Helps end strength

For more information on high year of tenure, call Customer Service at 963-4514.



Tech Sgt. Sandra Quinones

Lending a hand

Staff Sgt. Lesvik Arguello (left) and Airman Shannon Zimmer of the 437th Aerial Port Squadron prepare flood relief items prior to shipment to North Carolina. Five APS members helped with a flood relief drive organized by Summerville Ford and the Coosaw Women's Club on Sept. 23 in Summerville. The aerial porters not only offered their expert advise on shipping the two tons of supplies, but also loaded a trailer with donated clothes, food and non-perishable items, as well as six pallets of water. The other aerial port members who helped with the relief shipment were Tech Sgt. Sandra Quinones, Staff Sgt. Cole Harn and Staff Sgt. Matthias Roldan.